



Substitute House Bill No. 5734

Public Act No. 08-155

***AN ACT CONCERNING NEW AND EXPANDED BUS
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES THROUGHOUT CONNECTICUT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) There is established, within available budgetary resources, the "Buses for 21st Century Mobility" program which shall be administered by the Department of Transportation. Commencing July 1, 2008, the Department of Transportation shall accept applications from publicly-funded transportation providers and nonprofit community transportation service providers for funding to provide new and expanded bus transportation services as part of the Buses for 21st Century Mobility program. Such new and expanded bus transportation service programs shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Expansion of existing services where a demonstrated need has been shown, including, but not limited to, weekend and evening service and increased frequency of service; (2) establishment of new services where a demonstrated need has been shown; (3) new rail shuttle services; (4) express bus commuter services; (5) greater coordination of marketing and web-trip planning of transit services; and (6) other bus transportation programs designed to increase bus ridership opportunities for Connecticut residents.

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Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 13b-79p of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Commissioner of Transportation shall implement the following strategic transportation projects and initiatives:

(1) Restoring commuter rail service on the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield line, including providing shuttle bus service between the rail line and Bradley International Airport;

(2) Implementing the New Britain-Hartford busway, subject to the availability of federal funds;

(3) Rehabilitating rail passenger coaches for use on Shore Line East, the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield line and the branch lines;

(4) Developing a new commuter rail station in West Haven;

(5) Meeting the costs of capital improvements on the branch lines, not to exceed forty-five million dollars;

(6) Meeting the capital costs of parking and rail station improvements on the New Haven Line, Shore Line East and the branch lines, not to exceed sixty million dollars;

(7) Funding the local share of the Southeast Area Transit federal pilot project;

(8) Completing the Norwich Intermodal Transit Hub Roadway improvements;

(9) Conducting environmental planning and assessment for the expansion of Interstate 95 between Branford and the Rhode Island border;

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(10) Completing preliminary design and engineering for Interstate 84 widening between Waterbury and Danbury;

(11) Funding the Commercial Vehicle Information System Network, including weigh-in motion and electronic preclearance of safe truck operators for fixed scale operations on Interstate 91 and Interstate 95, not to exceed four million dollars;

(12) Funding the capital costs of the greater Hartford highway infrastructure improvements in support of economic development;

(13) Completing a rail link to the port of New Haven;

(14) Purchasing not more than thirty-eight electric rail cars for use on the New Haven Line and Shore Line East commuter rail services;

(15) Purchasing of equipment and facilities to support Shore Line East commuter rail expansion, including implementation of phases I and II, as recommended in the report submitted pursuant to subsection (d) of this section;

(16) Improving bicycle access to and storage facilities at transportation centers;

(17) Developing a new commuter rail station in Orange;

(18) Funding the Waterbury Intermodal Transportation Center, not to exceed eighteen million dollars;

(19) Improving bus connectivity and service, not to exceed twenty million dollars for capital costs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008. The funds shall be used to (A) construct bus maintenance and storage facilities for the Windham and Torrington regional transit districts, not to exceed fourteen million dollars, (B) purchase [and install clean diesel bus retrofits] vehicles for the Buses for 21st Century Mobility program, not to exceed five million dollars, and (C) purchase vehicles

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for elderly and disabled demand responsive transportation programs for use by municipalities that participate in the state matching grant program established under section 13b-38bb, not to exceed one million dollars;

(20) Funding the state share of Tweed Airport's runway safety area, not to exceed one million fifty-five thousand dollars; and

(21) Evaluating the purchase of rolling stock for direct commuter rail service connecting Connecticut to New Jersey via Pennsylvania Station in New York, New York by the initiation of ongoing formal discussions by the state of Connecticut, acting through the Governor or the Governor's designee, with the states of New York and New Jersey and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Amtrak regarding the extension of rail service from Pennsylvania Station to points in this state.

Approved June 12, 2008